

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 074573
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 CU-04 USIE-00 SS-15 /045 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/SOV:MJWILKINSON:EM
APPROVED BY EUR/SOV:MGARRISON
USUN:AHOLLOWAY
IO/UCS:OOLSON
USIA/IEU:SDEMITZ
S/MS:CKAMMAN
DESIRED DISTRIBUTION
USIA/IEU, CU/ARTS

-----094300 230038Z /63

O 222351Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, SCUL, UR

SUBJECT: PROPOSED FLEETWOOD MAC CONCERT ARRANGEMENTS

1. JOHN UPSTON CALLED DEPARTMENT MARCH 22 TO CONVEY BACKGROUND OF PROPOSED JULY FLEETWOOD MAC CONCERT IN MOSCOW AND REQUESTED EMBASSY'S ASSISTANCE TO RESOLVE CONFUSION OVER PLANNING MEETINGS SCHEDULED IN MOSCOW MARCH 28-30. UPSTON, FORMERLY IN DEPARTMENT AS SECRETARIAT DIRECTOR FOR US COMMISSION TO UNESCO, PHONED IN CAPACITY AS CONSULTANT TO WARNER BROS/FLEETWOOD MAC AND ORGANIZER OF PROSPECTIVE CONCERT. UPSTON GAVE FOLLOWING DETAILS.

2. CONCERT SERIES IS TENTATIVELY SET FOR ROSSIYA CONCERT HALL JULY 8, 9, AND 10. ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE, WITH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 STATE 074573

SOVIET EMBASSY SUPPORT, THROUGH MEETINGS WITH GOSKONTSERT'S USTIN (WHO PERSONALLY REVIEWED AND APPROVED GROUP IN WASHINGTON) AND EVGENIY OSTAKOVICH OF GOSTELERADIO. GROUP VISIT AND PARTS OF CONCERT IN MOSCOW ARE TO BE FILMED BY FILM AND TV DIVISION OF TIME-LIFE, WITH PROCEEDS FROM US SHOWINGS TO BE DONATED TO HUMANITARIAN ACTIVITIES OF UN,

SUCH AS UNESCO. FYI US NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR UNESCO HAS BEEN APPROACHED BY UPSTON, BUT AT THIS TIME CONSIDERS PROPOSAL INADEQUATE BASIS FOR RESPONSE. END FYI

3. FURTHER, ACCORDING TO UPSTON, PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT WAS TO BE MADE AT ABOUT THIS TIME IN US, BUT USTIN ASKED THAT IT BE HELD UP UNTIL GOSTELERADIO AGREEMENT CONFIRMED. ON PHONE LAST WEEK WITH MIKE SHAPIRO OF FLEETWOOD MAC, OSTAKOVICH PROPOSED MEETINGS NEXT WEEK. THEN, MARCH 22, OUT OF BLUE, SHAPIRO RECEIVED CABLE SIGNED IN NAME OF ANATOLIY BOGOMOLOV, ;DEPUTY FOREIGN RELATIONS DEPARTMENT, USSR COUNCIL OF MINISTERS," APPARENTLY AGREEING TO MEETINGS, BUT STATING THAT GOSKONTSERT'S AGREEMENT NECESSARY.

4. UPSTON IS ATTEMPTING TO CLARIFY THE SITUATION THROUGH KAMENEV AT SOVIET EMBASSY HERE, BUT ASKS IF EMBASSY WOULD BE ABLE TO CONTACT APPROPRIATE SOVIET OFFICIALS, TO SHED ANY FURTHER LIGHT AND EXPLAIN APPARENT TOTAL LACK OF COMMUNICATION BETWEEN USTIN, OSTAKOVICH, AND BOGOMOLOV. US GROUP, ON BASIS OF SOVIET EMBASSY ASSURANCES, EXPECTS TO RECEIVE VISAS AND DEPART US MARCH 25 FOR MOSCOW VIA LONDON. GROUP COMPRISES UPSTON, SHAPIRO, JOHN COURAGE (FLEETWOOD MAC MANAGER) AND TWO REPRESENTATIVES FROM TIME-LIFE.

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PAGE 03 STATE 074573

5. THER: HAS BEEN CONSIDERABLE HIGH-LEVEL INTEREST IN PROJECT HERE, BUT DEPARTMENT HAS NOT BEEN INVOLVED IN

NEGOTIATIONS. (DEPARTMENT/CU EARLIER DECLINED TO SPONSOR GROUP AS OFFICIAL EXCHANGE OWING TO BRITISH CITIZENSHIP OF LEADERS AND SEVERAL BAND MEMBERS.)

6. DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION EMBASSY MAY BE ABLE TO SUPPLY ON CONFUSION DESCRIBED ABOVE. AS APPROPRIATE, SOVIETS SHOULD BE REQUESTED TO CABLE CONFIRMATION OF MARCH 28-30 MEETING PLANS TO SHAPIRO OR UPSTON.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE074573
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MJWILKINSON:EM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780127-0275
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780335/aaaabdnh.tel
Line Count: 107
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 1a4b1fbf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3233165
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PROPOSED FLEETWOOD MAC CONCERT ARRANGEMENTS
TAGS: OEXC, SCUL, UR, US, FLEETWOOD MAC
To: MOSCOW
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1a4b1fbf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014